

Site: M:26/15/3

Lincoln High School

Stonestreet Avenue

Built: 1935

Building

Lincoln High School is a landmark in Montgomery County black educational history. Opened in 1935, it is the oldest remaining high school constructed for black students in Montgomery County. The facility consists of an abandoned building which has been brick veneered, a frame section joined to the rear of that, and six prefabricated Quonset buildings of corrugated metal.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M 26/15/3Magi No. 1651405801DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Lincoln High School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Stonestreet Avenue not for publicationcity, town Rockville vicinity of congressional district 8state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture <u> </u> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial <u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment <u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government <u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial <u> </u> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military <u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Montgomery County Board of Educationstreet & number 850 Hungerford Drive telephone no.: 279-3391city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records liber 578street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse folio 489city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Nonedate federal state county local depository for survey records city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. M26/15/3

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

Check one

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☒ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The former Lincoln High School is located at the corner of Lincoln and Stonestreet, facing west. It is surrounded by a large parking lot with two rows of sixty-degree parking spaces on the north side and a number of rows of ninety-degree parking spaces on the south side. An approximately eight-foot cyclone fence encloses the property, with large gates at two vehicular entrances from Stonestreet and an exit onto Lincoln. A pedestrian entrance is from Stonestreet, on the west, along a cement sidewalk that leads to the main door and is flanked by sodded square yards. There is a large pine tree in the northwest square; running vines cover the fence on the southwest square. Additional shrubbery flanks the west facade main entrance. A row of four deciduous trees are planted on the south facade between the school and sidewalk and the parking lot. The school's flagpole and a hand water pump in a cement base are on the southwest square front of the building. Six Quonset structures are along the eastern edge of the property at the rear of the school.

Lincoln High School illustrates how form follows function. The interior exhibits this with a long corridor from the front double doorway to the rear exits that allows classroom placement on either side for fresh air and sunlight through the windows. The utilitarian nature of the school building leaves little for ornamentation save for the principal facade. The west or front facade has some highlights and brickwork that suggest an Art Deco motif. Otherwise, the school simply is functional.

The principal structure of Lincoln High School has three sections in a linear arrangement, with the first two parts being almost identical in materials and architectural details. This one-story structure with basement is the original building and its first addition. It is red brick veneer with the original building in a lighter common bonded brick and the addition in a darker variation of English bonded brick. The roof is flat with raised sides. A molded cement cornice runs around the building.

On the main level, the north and south facades have a slightly irregular rhythm of raised six-over-six double pivotal windows grouped in sets of five mixed with separate individual windows. The sets have continuous molded cement lintels and sills but are separated by brick mullions; the individual windows also have molded cement lintels and sills, including those on the east or rear facade.

Continued on attachment 7.1

There are a total of four entrances in the original building and first addition: the west facade's principal entrance, an almost below-grade northeast corner double door, two below-grade single-door entrances on the south facade, one near the center and the other at the southeastern corner. Rows of three-over-three windows are placed above all of the entrances on the north and south facades. A large rectangular brick chimney rises from the center of the original structure for the incinerator.

The west facade provides the main access to the building. At its center is a projecting bay with recessed door frame. The center roofline of the portico is slightly taller than the building's main roofline and appears like a cut-out crest that is echoed on either roofline corner. The cornice line continues on this roofline from the building. Above the doorway, stretcher bricks are placed vertically forming a decorative square with a diamond cement block in the center. The doorway is treated with molded cement blocks that are quoined on the sides and have a double molding strip above; this frames the recessed wooden doorway that arches over its new glass door. There appears to have been a transom above the double doorway at one time. This portico is approached through cement steps with flanking low brick walls capped in cement. Single standing lights with round globes are on each wall's end. Three-quarter high brick buttresses are on either side of the portico and are matched by corner buttresses.

A second one-and-1/2-story, gable-roofed frame annex was attached to the rear of the linear arrangement. It is set on a brick foundation, sheathed in German siding, and covered with a seamed tin roof. The south facade has one set of five six-over-six sash windows at the southwestern corner and an almost identical set of four six-over-six sash windows with the second bay having an exterior door with transom. This door has a shed roofed awning with braces and a cement stoop. The north facade has a frame gable portico with wooden and glass panelled exterior door. Narrow vertical siding encloses the portico that is highlighted with Classical Revival pilasters on each corner; it is reached by cement steps and set on a cement foundation. Sets of five six-over-six pivotal windows are raised to either side of the portico. There are two brick chimneys on the north facade.

Southeast of the annex are six prefabricated Quonset buildings. The first two are gabled with a flat-roofed addition between them. Two other structures with semi-circular arched roofs are aligned with them. The last two structures with similar roof is turned to face the north in front of the last two. All of these are built of corrugated metal and insulated with wood. They are typical "temporary" buildings used for schools and occasional housing.

8. Significance

Survey No. M26/15/3

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1935

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Significance

Lincoln High School is a landmark in Montgomery County black educational history. It is the oldest remaining high school building and the only junior high school constructed for black students in Montgomery County.

History and Support

Montgomery County began its public school system for negro students in 1872, seven years after a similar program had been started for whites. The Rockville Colored Elementary School was established in 1876.

Negro students during the late 19th and early 20th centuries could attend classes in Montgomery County only from the first through the seventh grades. If a student could afford to attend beyond that level, he or she made arrangements in Washington D.C. schools, riding the trolley from Rockville to Washington or living with a relative there during the week.

In the mid-1920s, Noah Edward Clarke and others petitioned for a negro high school. They formed the United Trustees of Montgomery County, Maryland in 1927, which convinced the School Board to construct a high school in Rockville. Montgomery County's black communities supplied \$6700; the remainder came from the Rosenwald Fund, a matching fund created by merchant and philanthropist Julius Rosenwald to encourage construction of schools for black students.

Located on North Washington Street near where Beall Avenue is now, the long wooden frame building had 2 classrooms and a small library. The bathroom facilities were located across the schoolyard in the basement of the elementary school building. It was known as Rockville Colored High, and had three teachers for from 30 to 100 students.

Encouraged by success, the United Trustees then borrowed money to buy a second-hand Model-T Ford bus to transport students from all over the County to the High School. The School Board later purchased a new bus and subsidized student transportation costs.

Continued on attachment 8.1

M: 26/15/3
Lincoln High School
Attachment 8.1

In 1934, the Board of Education purchased 8-1/2 acres of land in the established black community of Lincoln Park in Rockville. Developed in the late 19th century, Lincoln Park has long been a focus for blacks in Montgomery County.

An abandoned building was moved from Takoma Park to Rockville and given a brick veneer embellished with a few modern stylistic features. An additional 6 acres were later purchased from Harrison England. Although this was during the Depression, the number of black students attending high school in Montgomery County increased dramatically with construction of the new facility. In 1928, for example, the old North Washington Street school housed 38 students in grades 8 through 11; this increased to 177 in 1935 with the new building, including 17 graduates.

Lincoln High School's first principal was Dr. Parlett Moore, who supervised 5 teachers. In addition to the general curriculum, some agricultural, vocational, and home economics courses were offered. Industrial Arts courses were added in 1946, Commercial in 1947.

For the 1939-40 school year, 314 black students attended Lincoln. That year there were six white high schools in Montgomery County.

In 1941 a Brookings Institution Survey commissioned for the Montgomery County Government noted unsanitary, unsafe, and crowded conditions in unsightly schoolhouses for negroes, observing that most negro pupils left school before they were eligible for admission to Lincoln. Brookings recommended that more provision be made at Lincoln for students learning mechanical trades, agriculture or home arts, further suggesting abolition of the 7th grade in elementary school and establishment of a centralized pre-vocational 7-8-9 school at Rockville.

That same year, the Home Arts building at Lincoln was destroyed by fire. The boys of the school built a new room, and the Board approved \$1465 for furniture and equipment replacement. While improvement continued at a slow pace, facilities and supplies for black students fell far short of those available to their white counterparts.

In 1948 the Citizens Council for Mutual Improvement surveyed colored schools and facilities. Several prominent black Rockville businessmen appeared before the School Board to protest the deplorable conditions at negro schools. They noted that all structures were of frame except a portion of Lincoln High School.

In the late 1940s, a Quonset hut was purchased from the Navy and remodelled for use as a gymnasium and auditorium at Lincoln; prior to that a hall had been rented during the winter months. More quonset huts were acquired to accommodate the growing number of students and programs. Some of the outdoor privies were replaced by toilets.

In 1950, Carver High School opened on Hungerford Drive in Rockville, and the older building at Lincoln became a junior high school. Lincoln's peak enrollment was reached during the 1953-54 school year, with 670 students.

M: 26/15/3
Lincoln High School
Attachment 8.2

During Montgomery County's staged integration process, the Board of Education decided to enlarge Carver for the junior high school students rather than fund additional improvements at Lincoln. By then there were approximately 3000 black students in all levels of County schools.

Lincoln Junior High was closed in June 1958; Dr. Louis S. Monk, principal, and 18 teachers were assigned elsewhere. That same year, \$56,000 was spent to convert Lincoln into administrative offices, a maintenance shop and warehouses for the School System. The administrative office use has been retained.

Survey No. 4126/15/3

10. Geographical Data

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale _____

A

Zone Easting Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing
18	500000	6110000

C

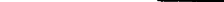
Number of children

Frequency

D 

E

F

G 

H

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

Blocks 3 and 4, Lincoln Park.

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

city or town Rockville state Maryland 20850

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



RICHARD H. ANDREWS
424-8282
1608 FARRAGUT AVE.
ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

0885-20-11

10/26/15/3
Lincoln High School
Frame (rear) addition
Rockville
8/85-



RICHARD H. ANDREWS
424-8282
1608 FARRAGUT AVE.
ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

OPP5-20-10

m 26/15/3
Lincoln High School
Rockville
8/85



RICHARD H. ANDREWS
424-8282
1608 FARRAGUT AVE.
ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

OPPS-20-12

m: 26/15/3

Lincoln High School

Quonset huts in Rear

Rockville

8/85